Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Address to: Mail Stop RCE **Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/661,927		
Filing Date	September 14, 2000		
First Named Inventor	Barrett, Ronald W.		
Art Unit	1639		
Examiner Name	Epperson, Jon D.		
Attorney Docket Number	019282-000110US		

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

amendments enclosed with t	er 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RC he RCE will be entered in the order have any previously filed unentered.	er in which they	were filed unless applica	ant instructs otherwise.		
	a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.					
i.	☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on					
ii. 🔲 Other			·			
b. 🛛 Enclosed						
i. ⊠ Amendment/Re ii. □ Affidavit(s)/ De	- •		nformation Disclosure St Other <u>Fee Transmittal, Pe</u>	atement (IDS) etition for Extension of		
			•	See Series & Control of the Control		
2. Miscellaneous			-			
a. Suspension of acti	on on the above-identified applica onths. (Period of suspension shall not		•			
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.						
a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-1430						
i.						
b. Check in the amou	nt of \$ enclosed					
c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization of PTO-2038.						
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED						
Name (Print /Type) Seoft L. Au	senhus	Registration	No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,271		
Signature Soft (lucewhil	Date	August 23, 2004			
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION						
Express Mail Label: EV 291377041 US I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on this date January 28, 2004 and is addressed to:						
Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for	Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexand	ria, VA 22313-1	450			
Name (Print /Type) Tara N. Da	mhoff	_		, , , , , ,		
Signature Date August 23, 2004						
<i>II.</i>	V / UY //					

60291927 v1

08/26/2004 WABDELR1 00000098 201430

385.00 DA 01 FC:2801

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

AUG 2 3 2004 P.ADEMARKS

Instruction Sheet for RCEs

(not to be submitted to the USPTO)

NOTES:

An RCE is not a new application, and filing an RCE will not result in an application being accorded a new filing date.

Filing Qualifications:

The application must be a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. The application cannot be a provisional application, a utility or plant application filed before June 8, 1995, a design application, or a patent under reexamination. See 37 CFR 1.114(e).

Filing Requirements:

Prosecution in the application must be closed. Prosecution is closed if the application is under appeal, or the last Office action is a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (e.g., an Office action under *Ex parte Quayle*). See 37 CFR 1.114(b).

A submission and a fee are required at the time the RCE is filed. If reply to an Office action under 35 U.S.C. 132 is outstanding (e.g., the application is under final rejection), the submission must meet the reply requirements of 37 CFR 1.111. If there is no outstanding Office action, the submission can be an information disclosure statement, an amendment, new arguments, or new evidence. See 37 CFR 1.114(c). The submission may be a previously filed amendment (e.g., an amendment after final rejection).

WARNINGS:

Request for Suspension of Action:

All RCE filing requirements must be met before suspension of action is granted. A request for a suspension of action under 37 CFR 1.103(c) does not satisfy the submission requirement and does not permit the filing of the required submission to be suspended.

Improper RCE will NOT toll Any Time Period:

Before Appeal – If the RCE is improper (e.g., prosecution in the application is not closed or the submission or fee has not been filed) and the application is not under appeal, the time period set forth in the last Office action will continue to run and the application will be abandoned after the statutory time period has expired if a reply to the Office action is not timely filed. No additional time will be given to correct the improper RCE.

Under Appeal – If the RCE is improper (e.g., the submission or the fee has not been filed) and the application is under appeal, the improper RCE is effective to withdraw the appeal. Withdrawal of the appeal results in the allowance or abandonment of the application depending on the status of the claims. If there are no allowed claims, the application is abandoned. If there is at least one allowed claim, the application will be passed to issue on the allowed claim(s). See MPEP 1215.01.

See MPEP 706.07(h) for further information on the RCE practice.